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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/755,043	01/09/2004	Robert Hasslberger	ZTP01P16026	8666

7590 07/02/2004

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EXAMINER

HOOK, JAMES F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3752

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/755,043	HASSLBERGER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	James F. Hook	3752	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1-9-04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Grundstrom.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Evans in view of DeMeyer. The patent to Evans discloses the recited cloth tube comprising a tube body 1,2 (two adjacent tubes connected together each having a body), at least one folded inwardly end as seen in figure 2 encasing rings 5,6, the inwardly folded portion lies adjacent the inner wall in a substantially parallel fashion, the

Art Unit: 3752

tube is seen to be seamless and is recited as comprising fabric that can be coated, the tube has a diameter, the width of the folded in portion is a fraction of the diameter, the folded in portion is sewn to its tube body, the second tube is formed of the same structure where the end of one tube body and its folded in portion is placed within the other tube body at its folded in portion, where such creates a transition piece where the two overlap as suggested by dependent claim 8 where the transition piece is a portion of the tube body bodies, the first and second ends of the two tube bodies are clamped together by rings 5,6, since the transition piece is defined by the tubular end of at least one of the tube bodies it is considered to be made of fabric since the tube bodies are made of such material, and the method of forming the tube bodies is also disclosed. The patent to Evans is used for mining applications for ventilation it is considered that one would want the fabric to be not only high in strength but also heat resistant to prevent explosions, however Evans fails to disclose what fiber is used to form the material, including carbon fiber or fiberglass, and Evans fails to disclose the amount of folded in portion or the diameter of the tube. However it is considered an obvious choice of mechanical expedients to form the tube with any diameter and fold inwardly any amount including at least half the diameter as such is merely a choice of mechanical expedients where one skilled in the art would only require routine experimentation to arrive at optimum values. The patent to DeMeyer discloses that it is old and well known in the art of textile reinforced plastic pipes, the same as Evans' coated fabric, that the fibers used to form the fabric can be formed of various materials including high strength and heat resistant fibers such as fiberglass or carbon fibers and

Art Unit: 3752

where such can be used in place of various natural and synthetic fibers to provide properties better suited for the application of the tube by providing strength and higher temperature resistance. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the fabric used in Evans to be formed of stronger more heat resistant fibers such as carbon fibers or fiberglass as such would provide more strength and heat resistance to the hose as suggested by DeMeyer when the hose is to be used in more volatile environments where the use as a mine ventilation duct is considered to be a volatile environment as set forth above, and that such materials are equivalent materials used in such ducts to meet the needs of the user and the environment the hose is to be exposed to.

Conclusion

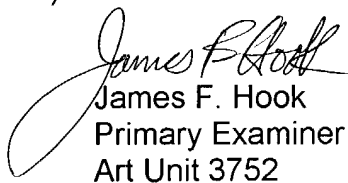
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Schafenacker, Jr., Howard, Tabary, Matovich, Ono, Ford, Head, and Jasperse disclosing state of the art tubes with reinforced walls and overturned ends.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James F. Hook whose telephone number is (703) 308-2913. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Wednesday, work at home Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Mar can be reached on (703) 308-2087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3752

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


James F. Hook
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3752

JFH